



## NEW REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1 SUMMARY REPORT January 25, 2016

### INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the results of the first of three (3) workshop series to be conducted as a part of the public outreach effort to assist in the preparation of the New Regional Park Master Plan. The first workshop series was repeated on three separate dates: Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the Perry High School Cafeteria (Workshop 1.A); Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the Southeast Regional Library (Workshop 1.B); and Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 3:30pm at the Southeast Regional Library (Workshop 1.C). The Consultant Team worked with Gilbert staff to develop and coordinate the workshop. A total of 189 residents attended all three workshops; 114 residents attended the workshop on Tuesday night, 37 attended Wednesday night, and 38 attended Thursday afternoon. Rod Buchanan, Parks and Recreation Director for Gilbert welcomed participants and introduced the Project Team which included staff and the consultants. John Courtney, Principal of RJM Design Group, reviewed the overall process for the development and creation of the Park Master Plan. Sean Wozny of Kimley-Horn Associates presented the analysis of the opportunities and features of the proposed park site. John Courtney then presented the workshop objectives and proceeded to facilitate the process.

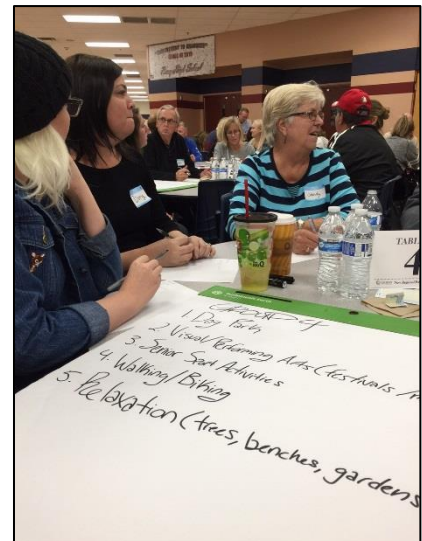


### WORKSHOP GOALS

The results of Workshop #1 are discussed below and do not include the results from other outreach efforts including focus groups, individual interviews, input from Gilbert's Website and mail-in comments.

The goals of the workshop were as follows:

1. Provide an overview of the process.
2. Identify the important characteristics of the existing site.
3. Identify the most important recreation programs to be included in the park master plan.
4. Identify the most important facilities/amenities to be included in the park plan.
5. Gather the community's ideas for funding relative to construction and ongoing operations/maintenance of the park.
6. Provide an opportunity for the public to create conceptual plans for the park site, see and listen to design presentations.



## WORKSHOP PROCESS

At workshop 1.A, participants were divided into 17 working groups for the workshop process; at workshop 1.B there were 7 groups; and at workshop 1.B there were 5 groups. Each member of the group sat at a table of no more than 8 participants with materials that included a flip chart, and markers to record their discussions. Groups were requested to select a recorder. During the course of the workshop, three topics were presented for individual consideration and group discussion. Below is a list of the topics discussed.

- ✚ Question 1: What are the most important ***recreation programs*** that you think are needed in the New Regional Park?
- ✚ Question 2: What are the most important ***facility amenities*** you think are needed in the new Regional Park?
- ✚ Question 3: What are your thoughts regarding ***funding construction and ongoing operations*** of the New Regional Park?

Initially, participants were asked to individually respond on paper that was distributed before the presentation of each topic. They were encouraged to list as many responses that came to mind.

A group discussion then began with individual members of each group sharing their responses with the entire group. Approximately 15 minutes was allotted for the groups to gain consensus on their top five answers on the particular topic. Groups were selected at random to present a summary of the consensus lists from their group.

## WORKSHOP SUMMARY

After the workshops were completed, the consultant team identified the top answers of all groups for each of the topics presented. They are listed below:

### QUESTION 1

What are the most important ***recreation programs*** that you think are needed in the New Regional Park?

TOP RESPONSES (in order of preference):

- ❖ Bike/Hike/Walk Programs (Trails)
- ❖ Field Sports Programs
- ❖ Outdoor Performing Arts Programs
- ❖ Fishing & Boating (Lake Programs)
- ❖ Fitness Programs
- ❖ Picnicking
- ❖ Play (Playgrounds)
- ❖ Aquatics Programs
- ❖ Indoor Recreation Programs & Activities
- ❖ Dog Training (Dog Park)
- ❖ Sports Programs
- ❖ Skateboarding
- ❖ Archery
- ❖ Gardening Programs

**QUESTION 2**

What are the most important ***facility amenities*** you think are needed in the new Regional Park?

TOP RESPONSES (in order of preference):

- ❖ Recreation Center
- ❖ Sports Fields
- ❖ Trails (Multi-Use)
- ❖ Picnic Ramadas
- ❖ Aquatics/Pools
- ❖ Amphitheater
- ❖ Lakes
- ❖ Playgrounds
- ❖ Skate Park
- ❖ Dog Park
- ❖ Tennis
- ❖ Splash Pad

**QUESTION 3**

What are your thoughts regarding ***funding construction and ongoing operations*** of the New Regional Park?

TOP RESPONSES (in order of preference):

- a) Construction Funding
  - ❖ Bonds
  - ❖ Sponsorships
  - ❖ Donations
  - ❖ Grants
  - ❖ Sales Tax
  - ❖ Fundraising
  - ❖ User Fees
  - ❖ Naming Rights
  - ❖ Sell Land
  - ❖ Public/Private Partnerships
- b) Ongoing Operations/Maintenance
  - ❖ Use Fees
  - ❖ Special Events
  - ❖ Memberships
  - ❖ Concessions
  - ❖ Fundraising
  - ❖ Volunteers
  - ❖ Non-Resident Fees

**DESIGN CHARRETTE**

Drawing materials, facility templates and base maps of the entire site were distributed to all the group tables at the event. For approximately 50 minutes, the groups were given the opportunity to discuss the program elements and facility planning for the site, cut out the appropriate templates and place them in the park according to the needs expressed during the Questions discussions above. Each group developed a complete conceptual diagram, and provided notes

or handwritten ideas on the plan. At the end each of the workshop sessions all group plans were mounted on the walls of the cafeteria and some groups were selected at random to present their designs to the group.

A summary of all the group plans is currently being prepared, so that a series of consensus diagrams will be ready to present to the attendees of Workshop #2 for review and comment. The following is a graphic snapshot of all the group plans that will be analyzed for this purpose.

**PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND:**

**Workshop #2 (Refining the Vision) on one of the dates below:**

Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at The Barn at Power Ranch, or  
 Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 1:00 to 3:30pm at the Southeast Regional Library Assembly Room, or  
 Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the Southeast Regional Library Assembly Room.

**Workshop #3 (Presenting the Vision) will be held at the following dates and locations:**

Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at 6:00pm at the Southeast Regional Library, or  
 Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at 1:00pm at the Southeast Regional Library, or  
 Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at 6:00pm at the Perry High School Cafeteria.

**All 35 group design charrette plans are listed on the Town's website as follows:**

- ❖ Day 1 – Jan 12<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Day 2 – Jan 13<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Day 3 – Jan 14<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Focus Group – Jan 14<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Town Staff Input – Jan 21<sup>st</sup>

